**Seminar on Non-conventional energy Sources**

1509. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a 3-day Seminar on use of non-conventional energy sources was held in Delhi University on June 2, 1988;

(b) if so, what were the main suggestions made thereat for modifications in the energy policy; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, a workshop on "uses of non-conventional sources and adult education" was convened by University of Delhi during June 2-4, 1988 where participants made the following main suggestions:

1. Communities adopted under the Adult Education Programme of the University and Colleges should be acquainted with the use of Non-Conventional energy sources by organising discussions and demonstrations. Similar demonstrations could also be held in the colleges.

2. Printed materials and audio-visual materials prepared by the Deptt. of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and other allied agencies should be made available to Universities and colleges for their effective use in the Adult Education Programme.

3. Supplementary reading material with meaningful illustrations should be prepared outlining all non-conventional energy sources with a view to providing information to the neo-literates.

4. Research studies relating to use of non-conventional energy sources should be undertaken through proper support from the Deptt. of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and the Delhi Energy Development Agency.

Government have received the above suggestions recently and in general supports them.

**Losses suffered by Coal India Ltd.**

1510. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 132 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th November, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Ltd. has accumulated a staggering loss of about Rs. 3,000 crores;

(b) if so, what are the company-wise details of the losses during the last three years;

(c) what major steps are being considered to improve the position and to reduce the losses; and

(d) whether any concrete formula has been prepared; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Coal India Ltd. suffered a cumulative loss of Rs. 2,033.72 crores upto 31-3-1987. Accounts for the year 1987-88 have not yet been finalised.

(b) Company-wise losses during the last 3 years are indicated below:

(Rs. in crores)
(+)=Profit
(—)=Loss

| Company | 1985-86 | 1986-87 | 1987-88 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Eastern Coalfields Ltd. | (—) 69.97 | (—) 142.19 | Account |
| Bharat Coking Ltd. | (—) 159.36 | ( ) 87.71 | not yet |
| Central Coalfields Ltd. | (—) 83.24 | (—) 68.67 | finalised. |
| *Northern Coalfields Ltd. | * | (—) 1.49 | |
| Eastern Coalfields Ltd. | (—) 99.05 | (—) 0.68 | |
| *South Eastern Coalfieds Ltd. | * | (—) 30.06 | |
| Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Ltd. | (+) 1.62 | (+) 1.21 | |
| North Eastern Coalfields including stockyards | (+) 5.82 | (—) 2.16 | |
| TOTAL | (—) 404.18 | (—) 331.75 | |

*Started functioning independently w.e.f. 1-4-1986.

(c) and (d) The Coal India Ltd. has no freedom to fix prices of its products nor it has any freedom to determine its production targets. These are fixed externally by the Govt., having regard to the overall interest of the national economy. The gap between the cost of production per unit and the selling price, as administered by the Govt. has been the prime reason for continuing losses in Coal India Ltd. However, a series of steps have been initiated to reduce the cost of production and cut losses. Most important of these are:

(i) Planning and execution of projects with high output per manshift.

(ii) A number of systems improvements and managerial measures have been adopted to improve efficiency of operations.

(iii) Efforts towards reorganisation of existing mines to improve the productivity.

(iv) Effective man power planning through control over fresh recruitment, preparation of manpower budgets, training etc.

(v) Improvement in availability and utilisation of equipment.

(vi) Improvement in the material management through streamlining of procedure, computerisation, vendor rating etc.

(vii) Action plan for energy conservation has been drawn up.

(viii) Improvement in communication systems and computerised MIS for efficient management.

(ix) Higher sales realisation by improving the quality of coal.

**Deforestation due to open cast mining by Coal India Limited in Assam**

1511. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many acres of forest has been destroyed in Assam by commissioning open cast minning by the Coal India Limited;

(b) how many acres of cultivable land has been destroyed near Margherita; and

(c) what amount of money the Coal India Limited has spent for plantation of trees and with what results?